

Meeting Minutes
Virginia Board of Education
Board of Education Standards of Quality Committee
Tuesday, May 25, 2004

- Dr. Gary Jones, chairman of the committee, opened the meeting with a welcome and overview of the agenda. All other Board of Education members were present: Mr. David Johnson, Mrs. Isis Castro, Mr. Mark Emblidge, Mr. Scott Goodman, Mrs. Susan Genovese, Mr. Thomas Jackson, Mr. Thomas Johnson, and Dr. Ella Ward.
- Dr. Jones discussed the effort made by the Board of Education during 2001-2003 that resulted in the amendments to the Standards of Quality (SOQ) during the 2004 legislative session. He stated that the priority for the next review of the standards would be to consider the processes associated with school accountability, not funding opportunities.
- Dr. Jones reviewed with the committee members the proposed work plan and timeline for revisions to the SOQ. The proposed work plan includes the identification of major issues, the opportunity for stakeholders to give recommendations at a forum, public hearings, and public comment periods. The work plan is designed to bring about proposed legislation for revisions to the SOQ, to be completed in the fall for consideration by the 2005 General Assembly.
- Dr. Cynthia A. Cave, director of policy, reviewed with committee members possible policy considerations for revisions to the SOQ. Suggested policy areas for consideration included:
 - Curriculum and instruction
 - Use of data
 - Professional development
 - Planning and public involvement
 - Compliance

Dr. Jones asked if board members had any other areas for consideration for the SOQ revision process. Suggested areas included tying teacher reimbursement to a national indicator, strengthening leadership training for school divisions and principals, determination of minimal thresholds for standards for school divisions so that some SOQ changes would only apply to low performing school divisions, and strengthening uniform data collection and analysis statewide.

- Committee members reviewed plans for the committee's next meeting. The next meeting is planned for the day before the full Board of Education meeting in June, and will be a discussion of the focus of the amendments to the SOQ. At the July meeting, the committee will invite representatives from professional organizations to make recommendations to the committee.